

OPEN MEETING ITEM

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MARC SPITZER - Chairman
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MIKE GLEASON
KRISTIN K. MAYES

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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2004 OCT -8 P 12:48

DATE: October 8, 2004

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCUMENT CONTROL

DOCKET NO: RR-02635B-04-0656

TO ALL PARTIES:

Enclosed please find the recommendation of Administrative Law Judge Marc E. Stern. The recommendation has been filed in the form of an Opinion and Order on:

BURLINGTON NORTHERN AND SANTA FE RAILWAY
(UPGRADE CROSSING)

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-3-110(B), you may file exceptions to the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge by filing an original and thirteen (13) copies of the exceptions with the Commission's Docket Control at the address listed below by 4:00 p.m. on or before:

OCTOBER 18, 2004

The enclosed is NOT an order of the Commission, but a recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge to the Commissioners. Consideration of this matter has tentatively been scheduled for the Commission's Working Session and Open Meeting to be held on:

OCTOBER 26 AND 27, 2004

For more information, you may contact Docket Control at (602)542-3477 or the Hearing Division at (602)542-4250. For information about the Open Meeting, contact the Executive Secretary's Office at (602) 542-3931.

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

OCT - 8 2004

DOCKETED BY	
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BRIAN C. McNEIL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

1200 WEST WASHINGTON STREET; PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2927 / 400 WEST CONGRESS STREET; TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701-1347

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This document is available in alternative formats by contacting Yvonne McFarlin, ADA Coordinator, voice phone number 602-542-3931, E-mail YMcfarlin@cc.state.az.us

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

2 COMMISSIONERS

3 MARC SPITZER, Chairman
4 WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
5 JEFF HATCH-MILLER
6 MIKE GLEASON
7 KRISTIN K. MAYES

8 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
9 THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF
10 TRANSPORTATION TO UPGRADE AN
11 EXISTING CROSSING OF THE BURLINGTON
12 NORTHERN AND SANTA FE RAILWAY AT
13 NORTHERN AVENUE, IN THE CITY OF
14 GLENDALE, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA,
15 AT AAR/DOT NO. 025-413-R2.

DOCKET NO. RR-02635B-04-0656

DECISION NO. _____

OPINION AND ORDER

11 DATE OF HEARING: October 6, 2004

12 PLACE OF HEARING: Phoenix, Arizona

13 PRESIDING OFFICER: Marc E. Stern

14 APPEARANCES: Mr. Timothy Sabo, Staff Attorney, Legal Division, on
15 behalf of the Utilities Division of the Arizona
Corporation Commission.

16 **BY THE COMMISSION:**

17 On September 9, 2004, the Arizona Department of Transportation ("ADOT") submitted to the
18 Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") a request for an Opinion and Order for the
19 approval of an agreement between ADOT and the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway
20 Company ("Railroad") to upgrade the Railroad's crossing at Northern Avenue, AAR/DOT No. 025-
21 413-R2, in the City of Glendale, Arizona ("Application").

22 On September 16, 2004, by Procedural Order, the Application was set for a hearing and
23 ADOT was ordered to notify any interested party of the Application and the hearing.

24 On October 1, 2004, ADOT certified that it provided notice pursuant to the terms of the
25 Procedural Order.

26 On October 6, 2004, a full public hearing was held before a duly authorized Administrative
27 Law Judge of the Commission at its offices in Phoenix, Arizona. At the conclusion of the hearing,
28 the matter was taken under advisement pending submission of a recommended Opinion and Order to

1 the Commission.

2 * * * * *

3 Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the
4 Commission finds, concludes, and orders that:

5 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

6 1. On September 9, 2004, ADOT filed an Application in which it requested an Opinion
7 and Order from the Commission with respect to an agreement between ADOT and the Railroad for
8 the upgrade of a crossing to replace existing flashing lights and to install cantilever flashing LED
9 light signals at Northern Avenue, where it crosses Grand Avenue, AAR/DOT No. 025-413-R2, in the
10 City of Glendale, Arizona.

11 2. On October 1, 2004, ADOT filed certification that it provided notice by registered
12 U.S. mail of the Application and hearing thereon.

13 3. A hearing was held as scheduled on October 6, 2004.

14 4. The Application provides for the Railroad to replace old flashing lights and to install
15 automatic right turn gates and cantilever flashing LED light signals.

16 5. Staff testified that the cost apportionment for the installation of the crossing upgrade
17 as provided in the Application was proper.

18 6. Staff has recommended that the Application be approved.

19 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

20 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties and over the subject matter of the
21 Application pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-336, 40-337 and
22 40-337.01.

23 2. Notice of the Application was provided in accordance with the law.

24 3. Installation of the crossing upgrade is necessary for the public's convenience and
25 safety.

26 4. The Application should be approved as recommended by Staff.

27 5. After installation of the crossing, the Railroad should maintain the crossing in
28 accordance with A.A.C. R14-5-104.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Arizona Department of Transportation's Application is hereby approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company shall complete the crossing upgrade as described in the Application within fifteen months from the effective date of this Decision.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company shall notify the Commission, in writing, within ten days of both the commencement and the completion of the crossing upgrade, pursuant to A.A.C. R14-5-104.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon completion of the crossing upgrade, the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company shall maintain the crossing in compliance with the A.A.C. R14-5-104.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.

CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this ____ day of _____, 2004.

BRIAN C. McNEIL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

DISSENT _____

DISSENT _____

MES:mlj

1
2 SERVICE LIST FOR:

BURLINGTON NORTHERN AND SANTA FE
RAILWAY COMPANY

3
4 DOCKET NO.

RR-02635B-04-0656

5 John Syers
6 ADOT-Utility & Railroad
7 205 S. 17th Avenue
8 Phoenix, Arizona 85007-3213

9 David Gibson
10 ADOT
11 Traffic Records Section
12 206 S. 17th Avenue, MD-064R
13 Phoenix, AZ 85007

14 Colleen Deines
15 Manager – Public Projects
16 BNSF Railway
17 740 E. Carnegie Drive
18 San Bernardino, CA 92408

19 Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel
20 Legal Division
21 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
22 1200 West Washington Street
23 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

24 Ernest Johnson, Director
25 Utilities Division
26 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
27 1200 West Washington Street
28 Phoenix, Arizona 85007